

16025
SKETCH

• OF THE

REMARKS OF MR. STANLY,

ON

THE BRANCH MINT IN NORTH CAROLINA;

TOGETHER WITH

• EXTRACTS FROM THE SPEECHES

OF

MESSRS. EVERETT, MORGAN, AND REED,

EXPOSING

VARIOUS ABUSES IN THE EXPENDITURES

OF

THE PUBLIC MONEY.



WASHINGTON:

PRINTED BY GALES AND SEATON.

1840.

SPEECH.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, APRIL 29, 1840.

The following sections of the bill being read, viz.

"For compensation to the officers and clerk of the branch mint at Charlotte, North Carolina, six thousand dollars.

"For pay of laborers in the various departments of the same, three thousand five hundred dollars.

"For wastage of gold, and for contingent expenses of the same, two thousand five hundred dollars."

Mr. STANLY said: Mr. Chairman, during the last Congress, a motion was made to strike out this appropriation altogether. I opposed that motion then; I oppose it now. It is, I fear, sir, too true that this branch mint has been thus far a mere humbug. I fear, sir, it is destined to be a useless tax upon the nation. But I oppose the proposition to discontinue operations there before the experiment has been tested. It has been in operation but two years. And as North Carolina has hitherto had little from the General Government comparatively, I am more unwilling to take from her whatever of advantage this branch mint may be.

But, sir, while I cannot consent to stop operations there, I wish to reduce the salary of the Superintendent, who has, from evidence in my possession, wasted the public money, and been anxious more to secure his own comfort than to serve his country. I move, therefore, sir, to insert in this bill the words "provided that not more than fifteen hundred dollars a year be allowed to the Superintendent as his salary." I wish, sir, to test the pretended democracy of some gentlemen on this floor. The Administration party have now a decided majority in this House. I demand of them some evidence of their sincerity in opposing extravagance. I will point them to what I think is an instance of abuse of station in this Superintendent, and I call especially on my Van Buren colleagues to join me in this effort to reduce the salary of this odor-loving officer.

I hold in my hand a document printed during the last Congress, (25th Congress, 3d session, doc. 189,) and, in examining this, on the 3d page, I read as follows:

"Annual expense of the branch mint at Charlotte, North Carolina, exclusive of the buildings, machinery, and enclosing grounds, apparatus, tools, and fixtures, agreeably to the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 4th February, 1839.

"1837. Officers and clerks	-	-	-	-	-	\$10,466 66	
Wastage of gold, and contingent expenses	-	-	-	-	-	5,500 00	
Compensation to laborers	-	-	-	-	-	1,500 00	
							\$17,466 66
"1838. Officers and clerks	-	-	-	-	-	\$7,000 00	
Wastage of gold, and contingent expenses	-	-	-	-	-	5,400 00	
Compensation to laborers	-	-	-	-	-	3,600 00	
							16,000 00
							\$33,466 66

"TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Register's Office, February 6, 1839.

"T. L. SMITH, Register."

By this, it will be seen also, on the first page of this document, that this branch mint did not commence operations until "December, 1837." Here, then, we observe that the officers and clerks received more money in 1837, although the mint was in operation but one month of the year, than they did for the whole of 1838!

1837. Officers and clerks	-	-	-	-	-	\$10,466 66	
1838. Officers and clerks	-	-	-	-	-	7,000 00	
							\$3,466 66

Three thousand four hundred and sixty-six dollars more in 1837 than in 1838 for "officers and clerks."

1837. Wastage of gold, and contingent expenses	-	-	-	-	-	\$5,500 00	
1838. Wastage of gold, and contingent expenses	-	-	-	-	-	5,400 00	
							\$100 00

One hundred dollars more for contingent expenses, also, for 1837 than for 1838.

My curiosity, as well as a sense of duty, prompted me to inquire how this could be so. And having been placed on the Committee on the Expenditures of the Public Buildings, I had an opportunity of examining into this building.

I have examined the "contingent expenses" of this mint, and, though I have but commenced

the investigation, I have found a beautiful specimen of economy in the Superintendent's accounts. I wish to remark, Mr. Chairman, beforehand, that I do not know this Superintendent. If I ever saw him, I do not remember it. I am not operated on by unkind feelings. I discharge my duty, and, in so doing, if I give offence, I must answer for it, and I hope I am ready to do so.

But, sir, he is a regular *professing* democrat; he thinks the banks are dangerous institutions, no doubt; he goes for hard money, too, I suppose. He certainly understands "wastage of gold" pretty well, if this document speaks the truth; and, coming from the department, I suppose it does.

This Superintendent, besides other things, is, I learn, a bank stockholder and a bank director! Yes, sir; "tell it not in Gath." The Superintendent of a branch mint, coining hard money, belonging to the party that promised the People gold and silver as a common currency, attending political meetings, advocating a divorce of Bank and State, is really, I am informed, a bank stockholder and a bank director!

[Mr. MONTGOMERY asked Mr. STANLY what evidence he had that Col. Wheeler, the Superintendent, was a bank stockholder?]

Sir, I have never seen the bank books. I have never heard this Col. Wheeler say he was a bank director; but I ask the gentleman, does he deny it? I am informed he is, by respectable authority. It will not be denied; if it is, I will undertake to prove it.

But, sir, let us come to the "wastage of gold" and the contingent expenses of an anti-bank, anti-corporation, hard-money, Van-Buren bank democrat. In the contingent expenses of the branch mint, I found one item charged \$218 25, to D. Landreth & Co. for trees! Yes, *trees*, for the branch mint—218 dollars' worth of trees and flowers for the branch mint!

Here, sir, is a copy of the bill, and, for the benefit of my economical, hard-money colleagues, I will read the items.

PHILADELPHIA, NOVEMBER 3, 1838.

United States Mint, Charlotte, N. C. per Col. Wheeler, Bought of D. Landreth & Co.			
50 Ailanthus Trees, at	\$1 00	\$50 00	1 Monthly Honeysuckle, 25
50 Horse Chestnut do. do.	1 00	50 00	12 Apple Trees, assorted, do. 25 3 00
5 Magnolia Grandiflora, do.		5 00	6 Peach do. do. do. 25 1 50
5 do. Macrophylla, do.	1 50	7 50	3 Plum do. do. do. 62½ 1 88
5 Tulip Poplars, do.	1 00	5 00	3 Apricot do. do. do. 75 2 25
5 Silver-leaved Maples, do.	1 00	5 00	3 Pear do. do. do. 62½ 1 87
5 English Walnuts, do.	1 00	5 00	1 Garden Reel, do. 1 25
5 Chinese Arbor Vitæ, do.	75	3 75	1 do. Line, do. 50
5 American do. do.	75	3 75	1 Scuffle Hoe, do. 50
5 Balm of Gilead, do.	1 50	7 50	1 Swan Neck do. 44 and 31 75
10 European Lindens, do.	1 00	10 00	1 Half-round do. 50, 56, and 69, 1 75
10 Morus Multicaulis, do.	62½	6 25	1 pair fancy Flower Pots, 37½ and 50, 87½
1 China Rose, do.		50	1 copy American Orchardist, 1 00
1 Tennessee do.		50	1 do. do. Gardener, 1 00
1 Macrophylla do.		75	1 do. Florist's Guide, 37½
1 Green Box Tree, do.		50	1 do. Lindley's Outline, 25
1 Variegated do.		50	1 Transplanting Trowel, 87½
100 yards Box Edging, do.		12 50	Packing 11 bundles and 2 boxes, with portorage, 16 50
1 Chacorus Japonica, do.		50	
1 Pyrus do.		1 00	
12 best Double Dahlias, do.	50	6 00	
1 Lonicera Flxnuosa, do.		37	

Received, Philadelphia, 7th November, 1838, of John H. Wheeler, Superintendent of U. S. Branch Mint at Charlotte, North Carolina, the above amount of two hundred and eighteen dollars and twenty-five cents. D. LANDRETH & CO.

I am not sure, Mr. Chairman, I have called these hard names properly. Some of them I certainly seldom if ever heard before. No such things grow in my district, either in the swamp, or turpentine woods, although we have flowers in abundance. Fifty dollars for horse-chestnut trees! Why, Mr. Chairman, there is not a country under the sun where the chestnut grows more abundantly than in Western North Carolina. It is a land abounding in beautiful trees. But plain North Carolina trees would not suit the taste of the Superintendent. [Some gentleman here remarked that the horsechestnut was the same tree called the buckeye.] Mr. STANLY said, well, sir, I have no doubt the buckeye, from present indications, will flourish in North Carolina, though I do not on this account justify this expenditure in these hard times. But the Superintendent, besides the American tree the buckeye, has also the "magnolia grandiflora" and the macrophylla, as it is spelt here, and silver-leaved maples, and, sir, the morus multicaulis! The hickory tree is no longer honored. But the morus multicaulis, a fit emblem of this humbugging Administration, is transplanted to North Carolina.

Probably, sir, when the Superintendent bought the multicaulis, he remembered the prediction of the Globe; in that paper, July 16th, 1834, it was said, "in eight or nine months from this time, every substantial citizen will have a long silken purse of fine open net work, through the interstices of which the yellow gold will shine and glitter!" He may have intended, with his "garden reels," and scuffle hoe," and "swan-neck hoe," to make silk for the purses to hold the "yellow gold." This is really a multicaulis Administration.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I have given this as a specimen of the administration of affairs at Charlotte. Just so the affairs of our nation are managed every where. This Administration holds out inducements to its partisans to disregard the will of the People: it rewards negligence in public officers. If they have served their party, no matter how much their country has suffered

by their misconduct, they are sure to be remembered. I forbear, sir, from saying more for the present. I do not wish to occupy the time of the House unnecessarily.

There are other matters relative to this branch mint, of which I may speak hereafter.

After some remarks from Mr. CONNOR, of North Carolina, Mr. STANLY said—

Mr. Chairman, I did not intend to trespass on the Committee again; but I cannot permit the remarks of my colleague to pass entirely unnoticed.

My colleague says, sir, he did not expect this attack from North Carolina. I do not suppose my colleague did expect this, sir. It is hard to say what he expects from any quarter. But does he approve of this expenditure? No, sir; he admits it is wrong, and utterly unjustifiable. No man has said it was proper. Why, therefore, should it surprise my colleague that I object to it?

Is it because this branch mint is in North Carolina that my colleague thinks I ought to suffer these abuses to pass unnoticed? Sir, my constituents would be ashamed of me if they thought I could harbor such a thought.

I object to extravagance any where. I censure the improper expenditure of public money, whether it be in Maine, in North Carolina, or in Florida. I envy not that man's patriotism who thinks otherwise. Extravagance may be economy when the money is spent near home! Sir, I made no attack on the State. When North Carolina shall be assailed, my colleague will not find me behind him in defending her. But I fear, sir, an attack on a federal office-holder with the gentleman is an attack on the State. The office-holders may be the State with him. There is a wide difference, in my estimation.

The gentleman says we had as well take our cotton to Philadelphia and manufacture it, as to take our gold there. I do not see the force of this argument. The mint is a national institution, intended to coin money for the whole Union, for the Government. I have never heard of any intention on the part of Government to undertake the manufacturing of cotton.

Unless my colleague advocated the establishment of the branch mint at Charlotte merely for the sake of personal advantage to a few wealthy men who owned gold mines, his argument amounts to nothing. I trust, sir, he will not say this building at this enormous expense has been constructed merely for the neighborhood. I did not expect that, sir, from him. I thought this branch mint was put there to aid in giving us a circulation of the "yellow boys." I expect my colleague from the Hillsborough district (Mr. MONTGOMERY) will want Congress to establish a little branch of the Treasury Department in his district, to issue ten dollar Treasury notes, which he wants, and which not one man of his party voted for with him, for I observed it, and called attention to it. My colleague, if I understood him, spoke of my arguments as "log cabin arguments." The log cabin seems to haunt the gentleman. There is this difference between the gentleman's opinions of log cabin men and my opinions: He thinks the log cabin men will do pretty well for voters. I think an honest and capable man, though he has lived in a log cabin and drank hard cider, will do very well for President. That is the difference between his democracy and mine.

The gentleman said his eastern brethren had received a little of the public money. True, sir, we have, and as far as my district is concerned, the gentleman will find the officers of the United States report that the work has saved in the expenses of freight, &c., in one year, more than it cost. But, sir, I believe we, in the eastern part of North Carolina, have never been indebted to my colleague for any assistance. He has never voted for any thing to benefit the eastern part of the State, nor ever advocated it that I know of.

[Mr. CONNOR said no, and he never would.]

Well, sir, (said Mr. STANLY,) I do not greatly grieve to hear this declaration. As his advocacy has never benefited us, I do not fear his opposition. It is a matter of the utmost indifference to me whether he advocates or opposes the improvement of the eastern part of the State.

The gentleman, sir, thought it necessary to say there were some Whig postmasters in his district. I have no doubt of it, sir. Wherever there is an office, worth four or five or ten dollars a year, requiring more time and trouble than it is worth, held merely for neighborhood convenience, in nine cases out of ten the postmaster is a Whig. Let any sacrifice be necessary for public convenience, a Whig, a Democratic Whig, is sure to be called on, and always to be relied on. But show me a fat office under this Administration held by a Whig.

I hope, sir, the gentleman will unite with me in reducing this salary. Let us save enough to Government to make up for the trees and flowers. This bank-directing superintendent, colonel, &c. has a salary, paid I suppose in gold, of two thousand dollars a year—a salary equal to that of the Governor of our State. This *multicaulis* democrat has a better salary than the judges of our superior courts; and they perform ten times his labor, and never smell "double dabbias" and "chacorus japonicas," &c., if they ever see them. They have no stationery furnished them at public expense, nor fine houses to live in, built by public money. Let it be reduced, therefore, to suit the hard times and the value of his services.

Sir, my colleague made another remark, which I confess was not very welcome to me. He said this was a "small matter." True, sir, this flower bill is small in amount, but does that excuse this abuse? Is it not our duty here to attend to small matters when they come in our way? I have been placed on a committee which made it my duty to look into small matters—placed there without solicitation on my part, and without my knowledge or consent before it was done. But I shall think myself unworthy of a seat on this floor when I shall be above attending to small matters, from a foolish and criminal pride, when my duty requires I should investigate them.

I know these are "small matters," and, as such, I especially recommend them to the consideration of my colleague. I respectfully suggest to him that they are as fit subjects for the exercise of his genius as for mine.

But, Mr. Chairman, this flower bill is not the only evidence I have of the mal-administration of affairs at the branch mint. And I give the gentleman notice I will hereafter make known other matters, which the People of North Carolina will not regard as "small matters," unworthy the attention of an economy-professing democrat.

APPENDIX.

Since these remarks were made in the House of Representatives, I have looked further into the expenditures of the branch mint at Charlotte, North Carolina. Believing it to be proper that the People of this country should understand how their money is squandered by those professing the most genuine democratic principles, I shall give a few other items of the contingent expenses of a sub-treasurer.

The superintendent was appointed in January, 1837. The mint did not commence operations until December of that year. The salary of the superintendent commenced in January. The salary of the coiner commenced on the 18th March, 1837. The salary of Will. F. Strange, the clerk, commenced on the 5th May, 1837.

A commissioner of buildings was also there, under whose superintendence the edifice was constructed.

The superintendent charged the United States \$50 for his travelling expenses from Washington city to Charlotte, "to take charge of the branch mint."

From 30th June to 30th December, 1837, Colonel J. H. Wheeler received pay, \$10 per month, for his servant for attending the offices, making fires, brushing out rooms, &c.

March 4th, 1837, the superintendent charged the United States \$150 for his expenses to and at Philadelphia.

The superintendent purchased of R. P. Desilver, stationer in Philadelphia, paper, &c., amounting to \$490 45. Here are a few specimens of what he purchased:

2 reams superfine satin post gilt edge paper, \$6 50—\$13. 4 pair office shears, \$1 50—\$6. 4 inkstands, large size, \$1 25—\$5. 3 Rodgers' four-blade penknives, \$7 50. 1 American Almanac, \$1 25. 1 Bennett's Book-keeping, \$2. 1 large inkstand for Col. Wheeler's desk, \$8 75. 6 blank bank books, \$3. 1 case mathematical instruments, \$7. (Paid by Col. Wheeler March 8, 1837.)

Here is a copy of a bill for articles for the branch mint:

Branch mint of United States at Charlotte, Dr. to James Green.				\$81 50
To a scroll sofa for office, boxing, cartage, &c.	-	-	-	49 50
Mr. Dyer's bill for furniture for office	-	-	-	87½
Sacking, &c.	-	-	-	
				\$131 87½

Received, Washington, 13th March, 1837, the above account of \$131 87½, of Col. J. H. Wheeler.
For James Green, EDWIN GREEN.

Curiosity prompted me to inquire what were the items smuggled in, which composed the sum of \$49 50. Here they are:

1 mahogany press bedstead	-	-	-	\$25 00
Hair mattress, 45 pounds, at 50 cents	-	-	-	22 50
Walnut waiter	-	-	-	75
				\$48 25
Cartage, &c.	-	-	-	1 25

For "Mr. Dyer's bill for furniture for office!!!"	-	-	-	\$49 50
To one case of shelves, and putting them up in superintendent's office	-	-	-	\$90 00
To putting up seven Venetian blinds in the mint	-	-	-	5 00
				\$95 00

(Paid by Col. Wheeler the 29th Sept. 1837.)

For National Intelligencer for Col. Wheeler, from March 10, 1837, to March 10, 1838, \$6.

For one year's subscription to Globe, from 4th March, 1837, to 4th March, 1838, \$5.

Copy of another bill for the branch mint:

February 28, 1837. United States, for Branch Mint at Charlotte, North Carolina, to Geo. Wevill, Dr.				
To 77 yards superfine ingrain carpeting, \$1 37	-	-	-	\$105 49
Making and binding	-	-	-	10 00
2 floor cloths, \$8	-	-	-	16 00
2 hearth rugs, \$10	-	-	-	20 00
2 table covers	-	-	-	14 00
5 Venetian blinds, \$8	-	-	-	40 00
2 do do \$10	-	-	-	20 00
				\$225 49

Received payment in full.]

GEO. WEVILL.

Another bill for a democratic superintendent of a branch mint:

"Ottoman and parlor furniture of the latest fashion, bedding, drapery, &c., made up according to the latest fashions, from Europe, in the neatest manner, and on moderate terms."

PHILADELPHIA, FEB. 28, 1837:

United States, for Branch Mint at Charlotte, N. C., bought of Alphonse Lejambre, Upholsterer, No. 301, Chestnut street.

6 mahogany chairs, \$5 50-	-	-	-	-	\$33 00
Box for the chairs	-	-	-	-	3 00
1 chair covered with morocco, for office	-	-	-	-	34 00
Box for the chair	-	-	-	-	1 50
					\$71 50

A scroll sofa, a mahogany press bedstead, a hair mattress, six mahogany chairs, and a chair covered with morocco for office—with the democratic odor from best double dahlías, chacorus japonicas, &c., &c., must afford wonderful facilities for coining the yellow boys! Was ever a nation humbugged as ours has been!

But this Administration tells the People banks are dangerous to the liberties of the People. Still, many who rail at these institutions, which they created, are enjoying the profits arising from them. And some who are bank stockholders and bank directors are kept in office by this Administration. And the branch mint at Charlotte was forced to apply to a "rag money institution" for silver to commence coining gold, as the following receipt will prove:

"BANK OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,

"Charlotte, December 23, 1837.

\$1,000.

"Received of John H. Wheeler, Esq. acting treasurer of the branch mint of the United States, at this place, one thousand dollars for that amount of silver furnished him for the use of the assayer.

J. J. BLACKWOOD, Agent."

These are some of the "small matters" unworthy the consideration of those who profess to practise "severe economy." Let the people of North Carolina judge if they are unworthy the attention of members of Congress. These accounts were audited by some of the very officers whose negligence in the discharge of their duty allowed Swartwout's defalcation to remain so long undetected. But neglect in the discharge of duty is unreprieved by this Administration. Squandering the public money is overlooked, if the offender will attend public meetings, and praise the democracy of Martin Van Buren.

To pass from the examination of the *botanical* parts of the mint, and from the furniture for the office, I will now show what are the buildings at the branch mint in Charlotte.

In 1835, Congress passed a law establishing a branch of the mint of the U. States at Charlotte. Congress never designed to erect a dwelling-house, and urnish an office in the style before described.

The act of March 3, 1835, provided "that so soon as the necessary buildings are erected for the purpose of well-conducting the business of each of the said branches, the following officers shall be appointed upon the nomination of the President, and with the advice and consent of the Senate: one superintendent, one treasurer, one assayer, one chief coiner, one melter, and one refiner. And the superintendent of each mint shall engage and employ as many clerks and as many subordinate workmen and servants as shall be provided for by law," &c. &c.

The buildings were not "erected for the purpose of well-conducting the business" until November, 1837, as the following receipt shows:

"Received, Charlotte, N. C., 2d November, 1837, of Samuel McComb, Esq. Commissioner of the Branch Mint at this place, the mint edifice, intended for the use of the United States, which I have now in full possession.

JNO. H. WHEELER,

"Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Charlotte, N. C."

Yet, notwithstanding the law, the superintendent was appointed in January, 1837, receiving his salary from the time of his appointment, and the coiner and clerk receiving their salaries also before the edifice was finished for conducting the business! This is practising "severe economy."

While Mr. McComb was superintending the buildings, the superintendent and clerk were receiving their salaries, and the superintendent charging his travelling expenses to Philadelphia to buy "double dahlías" and magnolia grandifloras, &c. &c. and probably to witness the inauguration on the 4th of March, 1837.

But what was the superintendent doing between January and December, 1837? Building ice-houses and summer-houses, &c. &c.

In September, 1835, "Samuel McComb, Commissioner of the Branch Mint at Charlotte," gave notice that he would receive proposals for "the erection of a building intended for a branch mint," &c. In these proposals nothing was said of any summer-houses, ice-houses, &c. This was determined upon by the superintendent afterwards. General R. M. Saunders drew the contract between the builders and the commissioner, and was paid for it; he can testify that there was no notice of any design to build any thing else than an edifice for a branch mint. The General is now a candidate in North Carolina, and, before he gets through the campaign, I hope the democratic superintendent will indulge him with a shower bath. He will need its exhilarating influence before the month of August.

The principal edifice cost	-	-	-	-	\$29,800
For extra work on mint edifice not included in contract	-	-	-	-	1,758
For building fences, summer-house, ice-house, &c.	-	-	-	-	5,500

By the contract made with Jonas Bost for fencing grounds and building the ice-house, &c. it was stipulated as follows:

"All the vaults in the edifice to be fitted up with shelves and pigeon holes, for the purpose of holding bullion, paper, and books."

The following will show what was going on between August and December, 1837:

"A contract was made for a stable and a carriage-house, [for the branch mint!] all the walls to be a brick and a half thick; the windows in the upper part of the stable to be in the form of a crescent, with green slats fixed or moveable; roof to be covered with heart shingles; roof, doors, and windows to be painted with three coats of paint," &c. &c.

"Carriage-house [for a branch mint!] to have a firm plank floor, doors to be uniform and batten; door and window sills to be of stone," &c.

"Ice house [for a branch mint!] to be 16 feet deep, at least, with a wall and roof as per plan No. 4; the roof to be shingled with heart shingles; the well to be 14 feet square at the top, walled with skid pine poles, good strong batten door, with lock, and a floor above."

"Wood-house to be 35 feet long by 24 feet wide, and 15 feet high, to have two doors on the end and one in the centre; to be underpinned with stone, to be weatherboarded and shingled, and to be painted with three good coats of paint."

"Bathing house, [to aid in giving an exclusive metallic currency!] to be eight feet square, attached to one end of the kitchen, as per plan No. 2, eight feet high, covered with a shed roof, and shingled; one window in the rear, of the same size, and finished in the same manner as the kitchen windows, plastered and whitewashed as the kitchen, with a fixture for a shower bath; panel door, with a transom light; tin pipes, to run from well and engine to kitchen and bath, and a drain from bath to lead off water to culvert."

[What snug arrangements for coining money? What glorious specimens of democratic economy!!]

"SUMMER HOUSE, [for a branch mint!] to be octagonal, and plain, about twelve feet across, to stand upon eight posts, with a shingle roof, to be painted, to have seats of plank, marked W in plan A."

"The whole of the buildings, &c. herein described, to be finished with good and suitable knob and stock locks and hinges, and all the walls to be of the thickness of a brick and a half, and all to be rough cast, except the wood-house, and all the wood work to have three good coats of paint, except where otherwise specified."

The above are a part of the specifications, &c. agreed upon for the construction of these "democratic" buildings, as certified by *Will. F. Strange*, clerk of the Branch Mint at Charlotte, N. C.

If the sub-Treasury bill shall become a law, and the receivers general, &c., who are to be provided with "rooms," &c. at the public expense, shall, out of the "contingent expenses," or "wastage of gold," &c., construct such buildings, such palaces as this, what a comfortable thing it will be to be a sub-treasurer! They will steal as much as Swartwout did, before they leave such comforts.

In December, 1839, the Imaum of Muscat wrote the President of the United States a letter, and sent him several presents. If the bottle of oil of roses could be retained by our democratic Majesty, I hope one demijon of rose water will be sent to the branch mint at Charlotte, N. C. Here is a copy of the letter as communicated to Congress in Senate Doc. 488 of the present session:

MUSCAT, DECEMBER 25, 1839.

SIR: I have the pleasure of sending to your Excellency, through friendship, viz.

2 good-bred Arab Nijid horses, 1 string containing 150 pearls, 2 separate large-size pearls, 1 carpet, 1 bottle of oil of roses, 4 Cashmere shawls, 5 demijohns of rose water, Also, 1 gold-mounted sword, please to accept with the other mentioned articles. Hoping you will be pleased to accept the trifles from your friend,

SYED BIN SULTAN.

Written by order of his Highness:

SYED SYED BIN SULTAN BIN AHMED, Imaum of Muscat.

SYED BIN, Calfaan.

His Excellency MARTIN VAN BUREN, President of the United States of North America, Washington.

To this letter Mr. Van Buren replies. He commences, not with a "Sir," but "Great and good friend;" and he concludes his letter thus:

"Wishing health and prosperity to your Highness, *power and stability to your Government*, and to your People tranquility and happiness, I pray that God may have you, *great and good friend*, in his holy keeping.

By the President.

JOHN FORSYTH, Secretary of State.

WASHINGTON, MAY 8, 1840.

I hope, if this "great and good friend" should leave his *subjects*, and visit this free land of ours, to pay his respects to our Imaum, who wishes "*power and stability*" to his "great and good friend's" Government, that he will be invited to visit the branch mint, where he can enjoy the shade of "tulip poplars and silver-leaved maples," and regale himself in the office on the "scroll sofa," or the chair covered with morocco. If the weather is fine, the magnolia grandiflora, the Chinese arbor vite, or the best double dahlias, will afford him "odor" in the "octagonal" summer-house! There, too, he can enjoy in Eastern style the democratic comforts of a warm bath or a shower bath. And if he should dream that forty thousand sub-treasurers would in a few years be provided with such comforts, and a standing army of 200,000 men be also created, he would consent to be President of the United States! His Arab Nijid horses could be accommodated in a stable with the walls a brick and a half thick, roof, doors, and windows painted with three coats of paint, and the "windows in the form of a crescent!"

Here, too, he could study the art of humbug; he could learn the history of the morus multicaulis, and the branch mints, and laugh at the folly of this great nation, which has suffered itself so long to be deluded in the expectation of ultimately having a gold currency. He would tell his people on his return that the "open sesame" to office and honors in the United States was, "I am a Democrat."

But he must come before March, 1841, for the wide-spreading branches of the flourishing American tree, the buckeye, are casting a withering shade on the Kinderhook multicaulis.

EXTRACTS FROM THE SPEECHES OF MESSRS. EVERETT, MORGAN,
AND REED.

Extract from the speech of Mr. Everett of Vermont, on the Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation Bill, delivered in the House of Representatives, April 20, 1840.

I have thus, sir, endeavored to show the real source of the great irrelevancy of debate during the present session, and who are responsible for it, and particularly for the delay of this appropriation bill thus far.

Having gone far enough to satisfy the committee of my conformity to the accustomed irrelevancy, I hope now to be pardoned for coming directly to the legitimate subjects of debate—the expenditures of the present Administration compared with the past.

It is not my purpose to make the charge of extravagance, but to place facts before the people, from which they can judge whether there has been extravagance, and whether the pledges for retrenchment have been redeemed. It may be that all the expenditures have been made under appropriations, yet the question goes behind that. Why have the appropriations been increased? This is a question for the friends of the Administration to answer. I shall not go into the inquiry whether the expenditures have been prudently made; that is a subject for the investigation of committees. And here I may, as well as in any other place, give a reply to the question of the honorable Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, (Mr. JONES,) who asked, why had not these investigations been made? You have, said he, a majority on the expenditures of the Departments. The fact may be so. My answer is in the language of the famous Committee of Retrenchment of 1828: "*That, without the cordial aid of the Executive, no effective scheme of retrenchment can be instituted.*" Nothing can be more true. We have had, sir, heretofore, a select committee of investigation; did it receive any aid from the Executive? No, sir, it was denounced as a Spanish inquisition. Nor is any thing better to be expected by the committees of the House now, if they should enter the Executive bureaus. But, sir, if there was no direct opposition; if the Departments should open their doors to the committees; if they should say, here are our thousand volumes of books, here are our cart loads of papers, examine for yourselves, what progress could be made in investigation without the direct aid of the officers of the Department, pointing out the proper books and papers to facilitate the inquiry? Sir, I have long been satisfied that it was useless to attempt any investigation without the aid of the Executive. This is no new opinion; so well satisfied was I of the utter uselessness of the attempt, that at the commencement of this session my opinion (expressed) was, that the Speaker should be conceded to the Administration party; that to the Opposition, it would be but a barren sceptre.

Let it be especially remembered that great complaints were made by the party now in power of the *extravagance* of the expenditures during the Administration of Mr. Adams. Witness the report, the memorable report, of the Committee of Retrenchment, in 1828. A reduction of expenditures was then promised. To show how those promises have been fulfilled, I propose to compare the expenditures of his Administration with those that have succeeded him, and particularly the expenditures of 1828 with those of 1838—the last year of Mr. Adams with the second year of Mr. Van Buren. I begin with some of the items in the bill before us:

EXPENDITURES.	Ho. Doc. 39, 1st. ses. 20th Con. 1828.	Ho. Doc. 17, 1st. ses. 26th Con. 1838.
For the State (and Patent) Department - - -	\$60,850	\$93,628
For the Treasury do - - -	254,032	495,675
For the War do - - -	66,953	149,642
For the Navy do - - -	39,767	53,407
For the General Post Office - - -	55,271	160,684
For the Judiciary do - - -	256,176	378,874
For the Surveyor General, &c. - - -	18,654	52,171
For the Mint establishment - - -	38,882	140,910
For the contingent expenses of Congress - - -	138,407	501,783
	\$928,992	\$1,936,769

I will now state the amount of the expenditures on the same subjects during the four years of Adams, the two terms of Jackson, and the *two years* of Van Buren:

	Adams.		Jackson.		Van Buren.
	Four years, 1825-'28.		Four years, 1829-'32.	Four years, 1833-'36.	Two years, 1837-'38.
State Department - - -	\$226,471		\$396,483	\$291,224	\$123,937
Treasury do - - -	1,040,030		1,054,247	1,481,305	872,623
War do - - -	258,100		274,789	519,418	300,032
Navy do - - -	163,190		166,796	178,331	83,822
Post Office do - - -	189,992		270,613	482,871	350,537
Judiciary do - - -	915,411		1,113,020	1,471,262	778,582
Surveyor General - - -	81,345		87,726	126,290	86,771
Mints do - - -	161,991		400,734	707,712	396,729
Contingencies of Congress -	387,530		510,258	977,908	784,489
	\$3,424,060		\$4,274,865	\$6,238,121	\$3,777,102

These items constitute but a small portion of the expenditures of the Government. These comparisons, however, afford a tolerable fair sample of the economy of the Administration on the civil list and on the permanent and ordinary subjects of expenditure.

The expenditures for the civil list, in 1828, were	-	-	-	-	\$1,455,491
And do do in 1838, -	-	-	-	-	2,620,663
The expenditures (exclusive of the public debt and trust funds) for permanent and ordinary purposes, in 1828, were	-	-	-	-	7,778,395
And in 1838, -	-	-	-	-	13,325,800
During the four years of Mr. Adams (from 1825 to 1828, inclusive) these expenditures amounted to	-	-	-	-	28,812,114
During the first four years of Mr. Jackson (1829—1832) to	-	-	-	-	31,370,095
During the last four years of Mr. Jackson (1833—1836) to	-	-	-	-	39,331,371
And for the three years of Mr. Van Buren (1837—1839) to	-	-	-	-	40,261,717

To these expenditures, in order to make up the sum total of the annual expenditures of the Government, should be added the expenses of collecting the revenue from the customs and from the public lands.

The expenses of collecting the revenue from the customs in 1828 was	932,093	
And from public lands - - -	95,766	
The expense of collecting the revenues from the customs (estimated on the ratio of increase between 1836 and 1837) was	1,582,000	1,027,859
And from the land offices, ascertained - - -	169,150	
		1,751,150

The expenses of collecting both for the 4 years (from 1825 to 1828, inclusive) were	-	-	-	-	3,998,464
From 1829 to 1832, inclusive	-	-	-	-	5,062,482
From 1833 to 1836, inclusive	-	-	-	-	6,269,837
And for the first two years of Mr. Van Buren (1837-'8)	-	-	-	-	3,463,397
Placing the expense of collecting these branches of the revenue in the class of permanent and ordinary subjects of expenditure, the expenditures for permanent and ordinary subjects for 1828 were	-	-	-	-	8,806,254
And for 1838 - - -	-	-	-	-	14,937,898
During the four years of Mr. Adams, these expenditures were	-	-	-	-	32,810,578
And during the two first years of Mr. Van Buren - - -	-	-	-	-	30,019,312

Such, sir, are the facts which I have submitted to the committee, and through that committee to the People. And how is this increase of the ordinary expenses of the Government attempted to be accounted for? The only reason that has been assigned is the increase of the business of the country, and that increase is assumed to be in the ratio of the increase of the population. The reason is undoubtedly good as far as it goes. The ratio of increase, however, is certainly too high. The increase of the transactions of the Government is greater in the amount than in the number. But, sir, for the sake of the argument, admit the assumed ratio. And what is the result? In 1828, the population of the United States was, in round numbers, 12,000,000, and (on the ratio of increase from 1820 to 1830) it was, in 1838, 16,000,000, (probably nearer 15 millions,) whilst the ordinary expenses of the Government had, in the same period, increased from \$806,254 to 14,937,898.

So much for the ordinary expenditures of the Government. I will now proceed to the extraordinary expenditures, (exclusive of the public debt and trust funds.)

For the year 1828 they were	-	-	-	-	4,717,577
And for 1838 - - -	-	-	-	-	17,998,503

The amount of extraordinary expenditures, exclusive of the public debt and trust funds, for the four years of Mr. Adams's administration, from 1825 to 1828, inclusive was	20,637,092
For the next four years (1829--1832)	24,592,129
For the next four years (1833--1836)	48,810,979
And for the three years of Mr. Van Buren (1837--1839)	53,937,600

Among the extraordinary items of these extraordinary expenditures is one to which I wish to call the attention of the committee and the public. It is one for which I hold the late and its sequel Administration responsible. I refer to the Indian wars.

During the late administration of Mr. Adams, the whole expenditure for Indian removals (and Indian wars) was less than \$120,000. On the accession of President Jackson, the new policy of Indian removals by fraud and force was adopted, and the natural consequences followed—Indian wars. And these Indian removals and Indian wars have involved the country in an expense of over twenty millions of dollars, without counting any thing for the expenses of the regular army and navy.

During the Administration of Mr. Adams, the expenditure for Indian removals was	\$113,288
During the first four years of President Jackson, for Indian removals and Indian wars, the expenditures were	\$1,031,697
During the next four years	7,655,733
And during the three years of Mr. Van Buren	13,714,319

During the late and present Administrations	\$22,401,749
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We have had *three* Indian wars—the Black Hawk war, the Creek war, and the Seminole war, besides a quasi Cherokee war. The Creek and Seminole wars originated with the Executive alone. They were emphatically the wars of the Executive. The first was in direct violation of a treaty. The second to enforce a treaty never made, and with a full knowledge of all the facts that proved its nullity. On a former occasion, I endeavored to expose the iniquity of this Indian war; and now, as then, I hold the Executive responsible for the consequences of this war.

But, sir, to all complaints of extravagance, a most extravagant answer has been given: That for every expenditure there has been an appropriation; in substance, that the Administration has stolen nothing, but has only expended what it has itself appropriated.

I have now said all I intended to say in relation to past expenditures; but I have a word to say respecting the future.

As I hold the Executive responsible for past Executive wars, so I shall hold him responsible for future Executive wars. I will hold them responsible for the attempts now making to force the Winnebagoes from their country under a fraudulent treaty, and to force the Senecas from their country under a Schermerhorn treaty, and for all the consequences that may ensue from their officious interference in the affairs of the Cherokees west of the Mississippi. These subjects, I understand, are before the Committee on Indian Affairs. The result of their investigations I will not anticipate, further than to say, that, with the lights now before me, I will not vote for an appropriation to carry the Seneca alleged treaty into effect; that I deprecate the forcible removal of the Winnebagoes as a measure of their destruction. And as to the interference with the Cherokees, that I consider the order of the Secretary of War to General Arbuckle to seize and bring to condign punishment, within their country, Cherokees who had committed offences against Cherokee laws, as illegal and *arbitrary*; and his second order to assemble the Cherokees within their country, and compel them to form a government which should exclude Ross and Coodey, as illegal and *tyrannical*.

The tendency of all these measures is to provoke hostilities on the whole line of our Western frontier. And for all the consequences the Executive ought to be held responsible.

Extract from the Remarks of C. Morgan, of New York, made on the sub-Treasury bill, June 28, 1840.

In no department of the Government has fraud and extravagance of a grosser character been practised, than in the territorial expenses of Wisconsin. Your bill does not provide for the entire expense of the sub-Treasury system. We have here additional evidence of its character and cost.

In the year 1838, J. De Sellhorst received for the transportation of specie	\$2,001 50
William B. Slaughter received for his services and expenses for transportation of \$7,000 in specie	200 00
	\$2,201 50
William B. Slaughter was also paid for expenses going to St. Louis	\$50 00
For do. do. do.	50 00

For interest on money loaned	-	-	-	-	-	55 00
For expenses for bringing money from Milwaukee	-	-	-	-	-	510 00
For procuring money on protested draft	-	-	-	-	-	114 00
						<hr/>
						\$779 50
Add to this the above amount	-	-	-	-	-	2,201 50

And we have the sum of - - - - - \$2,981 00 or seven per cent. on the amount actually disbursed under the operation of the sub-Treasury system. Estimating the expenditures of the General Government at forty millions of dollars, the additional expense of disbursing this amount, at seven per cent., would be two millions eight hundred thousand dollars.

In the year 1839, William B. Slaughter was allowed "\$800 for negotiating, receiving, and transporting \$20,090, and disbursing the same." What was the nature of the negotiation? Why, Mr. Slaughter went to Mr. Benton's bank at St. Louis, and drew out twenty thousand dollars for the Government, which he disbursed in payment of the expenses of the Wisconsin Legislature, and for this service he received eight hundred dollars.

William B. Slaughter received in the same year, *one hundred* dollars for "collecting a draft on the land office." A draft was drawn on the land office where the Government was bound to have funds to meet the draft, yet the officer employed and paid by the Government for receiving and disbursing the money, charges the Government an additional one hundred dollars for receiving and paying out its own money. It is extraordinary that no detailed account is furnished, but in every instance the charge is made out in round numbers. It may be well to inquire, who is this Mr. Slaughter? An officer of the Government—Secretary of the Territory of Wisconsin, receiving an annual salary of twelve hundred dollars, and bound to devote his whole time to the service of the Government, by whom he is employed, yet he charges, and is allowed, an extravagant extra compensation for every service rendered. In the same year, Mr. Slaughter was paid \$300 for *procuring* maps, and also \$200 for *procuring* seals.

The session of the Wisconsin Legislature, for 1838, continued seventy-six days, and the cost of printing during that time was \$14,678 51—nearly \$200 per day. How many of the States pay this amount for public printing? This exceeds the united annual cost of printing in six of the smaller States.

The members of the Legislature are entitled to three dollars per day—for the session of seven-
ty-six days.

Arthur Ingraham received	-	-	-	-	-	\$546 00
Alexander J. Irvin received	-	-	-	-	-	609 00
William B. Sheldon received	-	-	-	-	-	841 00
Thomas McKnight received, as member of the council	-	-	-	-	-	228 00
Ditto as member of the House	-	-	-	-	-	228 00
Ditto as member of the Council	-	-	-	-	-	82 50
Ditto as member of the House	-	-	-	-	-	87 00
Ditto for mileage and per diem	-	-	-	-	-	121 00
Ditto as member of the House of Representatives	-	-	-	-	-	132 00
Ditto examination of banks	-	-	-	-	-	150 00

\$1,029 00

or twelve dollars and fifty cents per day. These items are found in document No. 116, House of Rep. 26th Congress 1st session, as furnished by the Secretary of the Treasury.

These accounts were all allowed by Levi Woodbury. He cannot plead ignorance of the injustice of the charges, or of the gross fraud practised upon the Government, for his attention was directed to them by the faithful delegate from Wisconsin, Hon. J. Dorr. Sir, in this way your Treasury is plundered and your money squandered. We have here a striking illustration of the demoralizing effect of your whole scheme, and of the temptation which it holds out to avarice and cupidity. It is not that your existing laws are defective, but because in the selection of your officers you pay no regard to integrity of character; you do not inquire whether they are capable, faithful, and honest; you entrust your funds to those who have no personal responsibility, because they have rendered efficient political service. Your Secretary of the Treasury is faithless to his trust, and wilfully suffers your public coffers to be pillaged. If you desire reform and the careful husbanding of your resources, seek them not in the enactment of additional laws, nor in the erection of sub-Treasury vaults and penitentiaries, but in the enforcement of laws already ample, and in the selection of competent officers.

Extract from the speech of Mr. Reed, of Massachusetts, on the General Appropriation Bill, delivered in the House of Representatives, April 22, 1840.

I now beg the attention of the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means and this committee to the 387th, 388th, and 389th lines of the bill before us, as follows:

"For compensation to the district attorneys and marshals, including those in the several Territories, fourteen thousand five hundred and fifty dollars."

[Mr. JONES, Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, replied that these salaries were fixed by various laws, and that they varied from \$200 to \$600 each.]

Mr. REED said that he had heard various reports as to the income of some of these officers of the Government, but not being able to ascertain the facts, on the 30th of January, 1839, I offered (said he) the following resolution, which passed this House:

"Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to lay before this House, at its next session, the amount of compensation, whether as fees or otherwise, which has been received by each of the district attorneys, district clerks, and marshals of the United States, as officers of the Government, during the year 1839."

The Secretary made his report March 16, 1840, as follows:

The delay in answering the instructions given by me to carry into effect the resolution has prevented an earlier report; and as yet several of the officers have neglected to furnish the information called for, although their attention has this year been invited to a circular on the subject, issued as early as the 30th of January, 1839.

Then follows a table showing the accounts rendered by those who attended to the invitation.

The first thing that occurs in the case to attract notice is, that these officers, in a number of cases, though called upon by the Secretary of the Treasury, by order of this House, have neglected to render any account, treating the order with contempt. I will not detain this committee to name the cases, but, in some cases returned, the compensation is unreasonable and extravagant.

The Secretary of the Treasury appended a note to his report, saying that the amount received by the officers in this statement are, in many instances, gross sums, from which are to be deducted clerk hire, jail fees, and assistant counsel. In what instances? I have satisfied myself it is very defective in another particular—that the account rendered is for money only which has been actually received. I should like to be informed what marshal has incurred expenses for jail fees. So far from being correct, it is believed that in some cases at least, which can readily be pointed out, the jail fees allowed and boarding prisoners are a source of great profit to marshals. I know not what amount district attorneys have paid for assistant counsel, but I do know that, notwithstanding district attorneys receive such exorbitant compensation, the Government have very often hired assistant counsel to argue their cases, and at no small expense. I also know, if these district attorneys are eminent men in their professions, that they are employed a very considerable portion of their time in private suits.

While apologizing for excessive compensation, why did it not enter the mind of our money-saving Secretary to state to us the above facts?

[Mr. JONES, chairman, explained, and said that not one dollar of the money was drawn from the national Treasury. The sum was made up from fees and costs.]

Mr. REED resumed. The chairman is mistaken in point of fact. The amount of compensation named in the report referred to is made up of fees, and costs, and salary, where salary is allowed, and in some cases these fees are paid by the United States. Take the memorable case of Mr. Ingersoll, of Philadelphia. How many thousand dollars did he receive of the United States in his tea cases? But I hold the answer of the chairman to be wholly unsatisfactory. The charge is, that certain officers under the Government of the United States are in the receipt of most exorbitant compensation. The answer is, that the United States do not pay it. It is paid either by the United States, or citizens of the United. If exorbitant, and paid by citizens, it is actually more cruel and oppressive than if paid by the Government. Have we nothing to do but protect the Government? Is it not our bounden duty to protect individuals, our own citizens, from the oppression of our own laws?

By the official information now before us, (though by some officers withheld, regardless of the authority of this House,) it now appears that the district attorney for the city or southern district of New York received twenty-eight thousand and nine dollars in the year 1839. Perhaps the clerk and marshal of the same district also received as much each, but of this we are not informed, as they have not given the information required. The salary of the President of the United States is \$25,000, Vice President \$5,000, Judges of the Supreme Court \$4,500, &c. Is not \$28,009 an exorbitant compensation for a district attorney? In this District of Columbia, the attorney received \$4,005, and the marshal \$6,541. I will not dwell longer upon the report: it is in the hands of every member of this House, and those can examine it who think proper. I repeat, is not the compensation most exorbitant? I am in favor of liberal pay for public services, but there surely should be some limit to excess. I believe, if the fees and compensation of the officers referred to were restricted to a reasonable and liberal compensation, instead of requiring, as by the bill before us, the appropriation of \$14,550, \$50,000 might and ought to be saved to individuals of the United States. As to the responsibility of the present Administration, I will only say, if not responsible *heretofore*, they are *now* responsible, for I have brought the information home to them, and they can neither plead ignorance nor defend it.

[Mr. JONES (of Virginia, chairman) said, if the gentleman from Massachusetts would introduce a bill to correct this, which he conceived to be an abuse, he would vote for it. The fees of these officers fluctuated, and are at times, small in amount.]

Mr. REED said it was a fair presumption that their compensation fluctuated. But how? No one knew but the officers themselves, except for the year 1839. Report has said, and I believe

it, (said Mr. R.) that the compensation in years past to the district attorneys of Philadelphia and New York has been much more than \$28,000 annually. I thank (said Mr. R.) the honorable chairman for his disposition and readiness to vote for a bill to reform the abuse complained of. I felt quite sure the honorable chairman would not attempt to justify such abuse when brought distinctly to his knowledge. I now call upon him, as the leading man in this House, and upon the majority, who alone have the power, to correct the admitted evil. What possible hope could I have to carry a bill through this House that directly touched party and the majority? The honorable chairman, since he has had a seat in this House, has always been in the majority. He little knows the difficulty of effecting any reform where party or partisans are interested. I repeat, in such cases, all the minority can do is to point out the evil, and the majority must and will be held responsible here and to the country for the reform. I am ready to do all in my power, and in the present case have shunned no labor or responsibility.

There are many other abuses that call for reform. The pay of our custom-house officers is most unequal, and in many cases most unjust. Some of our weighers and gaugers, how many I know not, the last year received about \$4,000 each. It is an important office, I admit, but one that requires no extraordinary learning or talent. Integrity and honesty and attention to business are the qualifications. Their salaries for years past have been limited to \$1,500, full and adequate compensation, and were one to resign with that salary, ten would apply for the office. Yet the Secretary of the Treasury, almost the only man who knows these things, and who we are often told attends to the *minutia of his affairs*, in his multifarious and voluminous reports does not even hint at the subject, and I suppose these men will continue to receive double and triple compensation until the people demanded reform in good earnest; but I forbear—I will not further pursue the subject.

The slightest, the most casual observer, can but notice the sudden wealth and arrogant dictation of the officeholders, all under the head of "love of the people." How have they so suddenly attained wealth? One Indian treaty, with all its attendant frauds, at this day, would make hundreds or thousands rich. A few years service as district attorney in New York or Philadelphia—the custody of the public money when it is not returned—collectors of customs, who defraud the country—land registers and receivers, who have practised fraud in the sales of land, and in retaining the proceeds: each affords the means of wealth. It is my deliberate opinion that the officers under the Government of the United States, and the retainers and supporters of the party, have obtained for themselves more money, directly and indirectly, since the government of President Jackson, (eleven years,) than all such officers and friends had obtained under all previous administrations for forty years. Yet, as words have been things, the cry of democracy, love of the people, down with corporations and monopolies, has blinded the people. The people are coming to take judgment into their own hands. Professions alone, when put into the balance weigh little. I desire to thank God that the *people, not politicians*, have the power in their own hands; let them come, one and all, to the polls, and exercise their power wisely, and they can rescue themselves, and all shall again be well and prosperous with our beloved country.

Extract from the speech of Mr. Reed of Massachusetts, on the sub-Treasury bill, delivered in the House of Representatives, June 27, 1840.

I trust I may be permitted to suggest, as a reason against creating a host of unnecessary office-holders, that however numerous and unnecessary they may be, and however extravagant their salaries, we seem to have no power to reduce the one or the other. When I addressed this House some weeks ago upon the appropriation bill, I presented for their consideration a table from the Secretary of the Treasury, showing the amount of fees, &c., received by the district attorneys, district clerks, and marshals of the United States. In that speech I complained that the returns of these officers, in obedience to the order of this House, were very incomplete. The report referred to was made on the 26th of March last. On the 19th of May the Secretary sent us a supplemental statement, marked No. 141, and is in the hands of every member. The Secretary observes: "Even this statement, it will be found, is incomplete, from the failure of many officers to respond to the call made upon them," &c.

It appears, Mr. Chairman, that this House, with the aid of the efficient and energetic Secretary of the Treasury, have not power to compel these arrogant purse-proud office-holders to render even an account of their fees. Much less have we the power to diminish those fees. By this supplemental report it appears, among other things, that the clerk of the

southern district of New York received in the year 1839	-	-	-	\$19,469 92
The clerk of the northern district of Mississippi	-	-	-	9,700 00
The marshal of the southern district of Mississippi received	-	-	-	87,150 70

It seems almost incredible; but the report has been drawn out, like drawing teeth, most reluctantly, and is certified by Secretary Woodbury. Yes, this marshal actually received eighty seven thousand one hundred and fifty dollars and seventy cents for his services in the year 1839.

The people cannot bear such oppression. They cannot endure any more of these vampires, who are sucking their hearts' blood. I am opposed to increasing the number of these officers, leagued together to flatter and deceive the people, and put their money in their own pockets.

*Statement showing the amount of compensation, whether as fees or otherwise, received by each of the district attorneys, district clerks, and marshals of the United States, for the year 1839, under a call of the House of Representatives of January 28, 1839.**

Districts.	Salaries and fees received by district attorneys.	Per diem allowance and fees received by district clerks.	Compensation received by marshals.
Maine - - - -	\$1,098 56	\$802 37	\$1,445 08
New Hampshire - - - -	833 00	-	1,205 84
Massachusetts - - - -	2,129 38	4,836 25	4,234 30
Vermont - - - -	388 00	180 25	473 74
Rhode Island - - - -	605 71	1,347 31	1,037 28
Connecticut - - - -	658 68	542 68	2,358 16
New York, northern district - - - -	1,278 59	1,338 62	3,123 23
Do. southern district - - - -	28,009 07	19,469 92	-
New Jersey - - - -	387 44	226 49	792 64
Pennsylvania, eastern district - - - -	-	1,713 84	1,718 41
Do. western district - - - -	-	479 63	832 99
Delaware - - - -	246 60	76 18	313 32
Maryland - - - -	1,435 33	1,802 21	745 51
Virginia, eastern district - - - -	779 00	44 68	1,588 88
Do. western district - - - -	1,541 20	910 00	2,446 00
North Carolina - - - -	-	-	823 95
Ohio - - - -	579 60	-	2,682 89
Kentucky - - - -	-	-	1,236 00
South Carolina - - - -	505 60	993 78	1,083 40
Georgia - - - -	177 00	-	995 07
Tennessee, eastern district - - - -	-	-	533 85
Do. middle district - - - -	-	195 00	336 22
Do. western district - - - -	220 00	35 00	20 00
Louisiana, eastern district - - - -	3,444 09	2,109 24	1,525 00
Do. western district - - - -	-	-	-
Mississippi, northern district - - - -	316 00	9,700 00	742 96
Do. southern district - - - -	572 00	-	87,150 70
Indiana - - - -	1,214 42	1,270 59	-
Illinois - - - -	366 00	204 88	400 00
Michigan - - - -	832 81	-	1,695 70
Missouri - - - -	829 50	512 52	941 16
District of Columbia - - - -	4,105 00	61 35	6,541 67
Alabama, southern district - - - -	665 00	436 72	2,371 68
Do. northern district - - - -	-	428 58	2,836 98
Do. middle district - - - -	226 72	-	-
Arkansas - - - -	750 00	-	1,241 45
Florida, eastern district - - - -	2,129 00	-	1,421 56
Do. western district - - - -	946 00	-	-
Do. southern district - - - -	-	3,200 00	-
Do. middle district - - - -	1,062 26	-	-

* The amounts received by the officers, in this statement, are, in many instances, gross sums, from which are to be deducted allowances for clerk hire, jailers' fees, assistant counsel, and travelling expenses.

OFFICIAL.

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE FROM 1824 TO 1838.

LETTER

From the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a statement of Expenditure, exclusive of the public debt, for each year, from 1824 to 1838.

JUNE 28, 1838.—Read, and laid upon the table.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, June 27, 1838.

SIR: In obedience to the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 25th instant, I have the honor to "lay before the House a statement showing the amount of expenditure, *exclusive of the public debt*, for each year, from 1824 to 1838.*

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEVI WOODBURY,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Hon. J. K. POLK,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Statement showing the amount of expenditures of the United States, exclusive of the public debt, for each year, from 1824 to 1837 inclusive, stated in pursuance of a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 25th June, 1838.

For the year 1824,	-	-	-	-	\$15,330,144	71
Do 1825,	-	-	-	-	11,490,459	94
Do 1826,	-	-	-	-	13,062,316	27
Do 1827,	-	-	-	-	12,653,095	65
Do 1828,	-	-	-	-	13,296,041	45
Do 1829,	-	-	-	-	12,660,460	62
Do 1830,	-	-	-	-	13,229,533	33
Do 1831,	-	-	-	-	13,864,067	90
Do 1832,	-	-	-	-	16,516,388	77
Do 1833,	-	-	-	-	22,713,755	11
Do 1834,	-	-	-	-	18,425,417	25
Do 1835,	-	-	-	-	17,514,950	28
Do 1836,	-	-	-	-	30,868,164	04
Do 1837,	-	-	-	-	*39,164,745	37

NOTE.—The foregoing sums include payments for trust funds and indemnities, which, in 1837, was \$5,610,404 36.

T. L. SMITH, *Register.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Register's Office, June 27, 1838.

* This sum is subject to small variation on the settlement of the accounts of the Treasurer.

Add to the above, as reported to the House, for the years 1838 and 1839:

1838,	-	-	-	-	\$40,427,218
1839,	-	-	-	-	31,815,000